

Message Text

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PAGE 01 EC BRU 02350 191954Z

61

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 EB-11 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-20

STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 FEA-02

OMB-01 SWF-02 OIC-04 AF-10 EA-11 NEA-10 DRC-01 /229 W
----- 123136

R 191835Z APR 74

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6745

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS UNN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT, EEC

SUBJ: INTERNATIONAL DISCIPLINE FOR SHORT SUPPLY
ACTIONS AND RAW MATERIALS SUPPLY PROBLEMS

REF: A) STATE 74777; B) STATE 69620

C) EC BRUSSELS 1807; D) EC BRUSSELS 2311

1. SUMMARY: DISCUSSIONS WITH A NUMBER OF COMMISSION
OFFICIALS HAVE REVEALED THAT GENERAL COMMUNITY THINKING ON
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PAGE 02 EC BRU 02350 191954Z

INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR SHORT SUPPLY PROBLEMS

HAS NOT PROGRESSED VERY FAR. MANY OFFICIALS ARE STILL ON EASTER LEAVE, BUT SEVERAL OF THESE STILL IN TOWN INDICATE THAT THOUGH THE COMMISSION HAS BEGUN TO STUDY THE ISSUE, THE COMMISSION IS STILL A LONG WAY FROM COMING UP WITH AN AGREED POLICY. END SUMMARY.

2. THE VISIT OF SECRETARY DENT PROVIDED AN OPPORTUNITY FOR DISCUSSION WITH COMMISSIONER SPINELLI, HIJZEN, AND OTHERS ON THE PROBLEM OF RAW MATERIAL SUPPLIES, MAINLY IN THE CONTEXT OF THE MONDALE-RIBICOFF AMENDMENT TO THE TRADE REFORM ACT (SEE REF TEL D).

3. ON APRIL 9 WE OUTLINED TO COMMISSION DIRECTORS MEYNELL AND PHAN VAN PHI U. S. OBJECTIONS TO BILATERAL APPROACHES ON SUPPLY PROBLEMS IN CONNECTION WITH ASSOCIATION ARRANGEMENTS (REFTEL B). PHAN VAN PHI FRANKLY ADMITTED THAT COMMISSION THINKING ON THIS SUBJECT IS ONLY AT A PRELIMINARY STAGE, BUT HE WAS CONSCIOUS OF THE POTENTIAL PROBLEMS THAT BILATERAL APPROACHES COULD RAISE WITH THE UNITED STATES. MYENELL ALSO EXPRESSED PERSONAL AGREEMENT THAT BILATERAL EC APPROACHES WOULD BE AN ECONOMIC MISTAKE AND COULD CAUSE SERIOUS PROBLEMS WITH THE U. S. HE WELCOMED A CLEAR STATEMENT OF U.S. POLICY ON THE ISSUE SINCE, HE SAID, SOME COMMISSION OFFICIALS ARE NOT AWARE OF THE PROBLEMS CONNECTED WITH A BILATERAL APPROACH.

4. PHAN VAN PHI EXPECTS TO BE IN PARIS NEXT WEEK FOR THE XCSS MEETING AND THE PRIOR EC CAUCUS ON APRIL 22. HE DOES NOT EXPECT THAT THE XCSS AGENDA WILL ALLOW A VERY SUBSTANTIAL DISCUSSION ON SHORT SUPPLY PROBLEMS. HE CONSIDERS THAT U. S. THINKING HAS PROGRESSED MUCH FURTHER THAN THAT OF THE COMMUNITY, THOUGH THE COMMUNITY RECOGNIZES THAT THE SUBJECT IS AN INEVITABLE ONE FOR THE MULTILATERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS.

5. ON APRIL 9, THE MISSION DISCUSSED INFORMALLY PRELIMINARY USG THINKING ON INTERNATIONAL DISCIPLINE FOR SHORT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 EC BRU 02350 191954Z

SUPPLY PROBLEMS (REFTEL A) WITH KLAUS EWIG, DIVISION CHIEF IN THE EC COMMISSION DIRECTORATE GENERAL ON EXTERNAL RELATIONS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FOREIGN TRADE ASPECTS OF ENERGY AND INDUSTRIAL RAW MATERIALS.

6. IN RESPONSE TO THE DIFFERENT QUESTIONS POSED IN REFTTEL A, PARA. E, EWIG COMMENTED THAT THE EC COMMISSION HAD NOT PROGRESSED VERY FAR IN ITS THINK-

ING ON LIMITATIONS ON THE USE OF EXPORT RESTRAINTS. HE SAID THAT THERE HAD BEEN SOME THOUGHT IN CONNECTION WITH A CODE OF GOOD CONDUCT IN THE GATT OR THE OECD, BUT NOT MUCH WORK HAD BEEN DONE. HE SAID THAT PERSONALLY HE BELIEVED THAT IN THE FIRST INSTANCE ANY LIMITATIONS ON EXPORT CONTROLS WERE LIKELY TO BE ACCEPTABLE ONLY BY THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. HE DID NOT BELIEVE THE LDC'S PRODUCING RAW MATERIALS WOULD TOLERATE ANY RESTRAINTS IN WHAT THEY CONSIDERED THEIR SOVEREIGN RIGHTS TO CONTROL THEIR OWN RAW MATERIALS.

7. EWIG, STILL SPEAKING PERSONALLY, SAID THAT GUIDELINES FOR EXPORT CONTROLS THAT ONLY COVERED DEVELOPED COUNTRIES WOULD BE USEFUL TO THE EC, AS OVER 50PERCENT OF ITS RAW MATERIALS IMPORTS COME FROM DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. A PRELIMINARY WORKING LEVEL COMMISSION STUDY HAD EXPLODED THE MYTH THAT MOST OF THE EC'S IMPORTED RAW MATERIALS CAME FROM THE LDC (SEPTTEL). EWIG SAID THAT IT WOULD SEEM APPROPRIATE TO HAVE INITIAL SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS IN THE OECD BEFORE MOVING THE SUBJECT TO THE GATT IN THE MTN CONTEXT.

8. WHEN WE REMINDED HIM OF THE U. S. VIEW THAT RAW MATERIAL SUPPLY QUESTIONS SHOULD BE DEALT WITH MULTILATERALLY AND NOT BILATERALLY (REFTEL B), EWIG RESPONDED THAT HE PERSONALLY AGREED AND CONSIDERED BILATERAL ARRANGEMENTS IN SPECIFIC COMMODITIES UNWISE POLITICALLY AND NOT NECESSARY ECONOMICALLY. MYERSON

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